

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 07251 221439Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 SAM-01 OMB-01 IO-13 /089 W

----- 047609

O R 221359Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 171

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 7251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: OCT. 21 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT INITIAL SUCCESS OF CEASEFIRE

1. MEDIA STRESSED POSITIVE INDICATIONS THAT 55TH LEBANESE CEASE-FIRE BEGINNING TO TAKE HOLD. PRESS HEADLINED: "CEASEFIRE IN LEBANON. CALMNESS PREVAILS OVER BEIRUT FOLLOWING STORMY NIGHT. FIGHTING HAS STOPPED IN LEBANON AMDIST WIDE WELCOME FOR RESOLUTIONS AND POSITIVE RESULTS OF SIX-SIDED CONFERENCE. LEBANESE DEPUTIES WELCOME RIYADH RESOLUTIONS AND PRAISE SYRIAN STAND." ARTICLES CITED AFP DISPATCH ON END TO RANDOM SHELLING OF BEIRUT RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS AND CALM ON OTHER FRONTS, ALTHOUGH ALLEGEDLY NO REPORTS WERE AVAILABLE ON SOUTHERN FRONT. GENERAL QUIET CONTRASTED WITH FIGHTING OCT. 20, WHICH ACCORDING TO PRESS LED TP 120 KILLED AND 300 WOUNDED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 07251 221439Z

2. MEDIA REPORTED PRES. SARKIS MET PREVIOUS DAY WITH SAUDI

MILITARY ATTACHE TO DISCUSS MILITARY ASPECTS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RIYADH RESES. ATTACHE HAD PREVIOUSLY MET WITH ARAFAT, KARAME, AND GEMAYEL.

3. MEDIA REPORTED PRES. ASAD RECEIVED TONY FRANGIE EVENING OCT. 21 TO DISCUSS RIYADH SUMMIT AND PLANS TO IMPLEMENT ITS RESES.

4. MEDIA NOTED AL SECGEN OFFICIALLY EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO ALL ARAB CHIEFS OF STATE TO ATTEND CAIRO SUMMIT MONDAY, OCT. 25 ACCORDING TO PRESS, INFORMATION FROM BEIRUT INDICATES SARKIS WILL ATTEND SUMMIT WITHOUT POLITICAL DELEGATION, TO OBVIATE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM RIVAL CLAIMS TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO IN HIS HOLDOVER CABINET.

5. PRESS EDITORIALS FOCUSED ON IRAQI ATTEMPT TO PREVENT BLU-TION OF LEBANESE CRISIS. AL-BAATH EDITORIAL CLAIMED BAGHDAD REGIME AIMING TO PARTITION LEBANON, UNDERMINE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT. SANA RELEASE ALSO PROMOTED STATEMENT BY COMMITTEE FOR DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DETAINEES IN IRAQ CHARGING REGIME THERE OF TRAMPLING ON RIGHTS OF IRAQI PEOPLE. COMMITTEE STATEMENT CALLED FOR SENDING OF DELEGATION TO IRAQ ON FACT-FINDING MISSION TO LOOK INTO "CRIMES BEING COMMITTED DAILY AGAINST IRAQI PEOPLE."

6. COMMENT: RENEWED PROPAGANDA OFFENSIVE AGAINST IRAQ UNDOUBTEDLY DESIGNED TO PREPARE CASE AGAINST BAGHDAD FOR UNDERCUTTING RIYADH ACCORDS IN CASE LATEST CEASEFIRE PROVES OF LIMITED DURATION. MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ARMISTICE, CIVIL DISORDERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976DAMASC07251  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760397-0066  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761025/aaaaavat.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2005 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OCT. 21 SYRIAN MEDIA REPORT INITIAL SUCCESS OF CEASEFIRE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SY, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006